

## CLAIMS

### 1. (Currently Amended)

At least one computer-readable storage medium having computer executable instructions that provide a method for transferring computer-readable objects across a remote boundary, the method comprising:

negotiating with a remote entity to determine which object types are known by the remote entity in order to determine a list of known objects; after the negotiating, decomposing an object of the computer-readable objects and being of a known object type into multiple sub-components, including dividing the multiple sub-components into a hierarchy based upon the negotiated list of known object types, the known object types being a type known by the remote entity;

after the negotiating, decomposing another object of the computer readable objects and being of an unknown object type, including keeping a property of the object of the unknown object type as a property bag;

serializing the multiple sub-components and the property bag into a serialized package; and

transmitting the serialized package to the remote entity.

**2. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the list identifies a data type of the object as one of the known object types.

**3. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein at least one sub-component comprises an unknown object having a type unidentified within the list.

**4. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 3, wherein decomposing an object further comprises decomposing the unknown object into another level of sub-components based on the list.

**5. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein a first process on a system transmits the serialized package and the remote entity comprises another process on the system.

**6. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein a first process on a system transmits the serialized package and the remote entity comprises another process on another system.

**7. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein a first application domain executing within a process

transmits the serialized package and the remote entity comprises another application domain within the process.

**8. (Previously Presented)**                      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the hierarchy comprises a property bag.

**9. (Previously Presented)**                      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein the property bag comprises a hash table.

**10. (Previously Presented)**                      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein a key for each entry in the hash table comprises a name for the sub-component associated with the entry.

**11. (Previously Presented)**                      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein the property bag comprises a plurality of entries, each entry being associated with one of the sub-components and having a first field for storing a name associated with the sub-component, a second field for storing a value associated with the sub-component, and a third field for storing a type associated with the sub-component.

**12. (Previously Presented)**                      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, further comprising negotiating the known object types identified within list by receiving a version number of a first list available to

a first process, comparing the version number to another version number of a second list available to the remote entity, and determining the list based on the comparison.

**13. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the negotiating includes accepting a plurality of object types received from a first process, the accepted object types becoming known object types identified within the list.

**14. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein the negotiating includes receiving an identifier for a file having the list, including object types identified within the file.

**15. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, further comprising limiting the hierarchy of sub-components by specifying a pre-determined depth for the hierarchy, wherein decomposing the object comprises decomposing the object to the pre-determined depth.

**16. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, further comprising limiting the hierarchy of sub-components by defining a property set that identifies individual properties of the

object, wherein decomposing the object comprises decomposing the identified individual properties of the object.

**17. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, further comprising limiting the hierarchy of sub-components by identifying a specified property within the object, wherein decomposing the object comprises decomposing the specified property.

**18. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, further comprising limiting the hierarchy of sub-components by specifying a pre-determined number that limits the known objects that are serialized into the serialized package by the number.

**19. (Currently Amended)** At least one computer-readable storage medium having computer executable instructions that provide a method for receiving a package representing a computer-readable object transmitted across a remote boundary, the method comprising:

- receiving a serialized package from a remote entity;
- identifying a hierarchy of sub-components, the hierarchy representing an object of a first type;
- for each sub-component:
- identifying a type associated with the sub-component;

determining whether that identified type is within a list of known object types, the list having been negotiated with the remote entity before the serializing of the package on the remote entity;

responding to the determining, wherein the responding comprises instantiating a first object of the type and populating at least one property of the first object with information obtained from within the serialized package, wherein the instantiating and populating are performed when the identified type is within the list of known object types; and

when the identified type is an unknown object type, responding to the determining, wherein the responding comprises instantiating a second object and populating at least one property of the second object with information obtained from within the serialized package.

**20. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein the list includes the first type as one of the known object types.

**21. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein the at least one sub-component comprises an unknown object having a type unidentified within the list.

**22. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein a first process on a system receives the

serialized package and the remote entity comprises another process on the system.

**23. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein a first process on a system receives the serialized package and the remote entity comprises another process on another system.

**24. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein a first application domain executing within a process receives the serialized package and the remote entity comprises another application domain within the process.

**25. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 19, wherein the serialized package comprises an XML document.

**26. (Currently Amended)** A system that communicates objects across a remote boundary, comprising:

- a processor;
- a memory, the memory being allocated for a plurality of computer-executable instructions which are loaded into the memory for execution by the

processor, the computer-executable instructions providing a method for communicating objects across the remote boundary, the method comprising:

negotiating with a remote entity to determine which object types are known by the remote entity in order to determine a list of known objects; after the negotiating, decomposing an object of the computer-readable objects and being of a known object type into multiple sub-components, including dividing the multiple sub-components into a hierarchy based upon the negotiated list of known object types, the known object types being a type known by the remote entity;

after the negotiating, decomposing another object of the computer readable objects and being of an unknown object type into multiple sub-components, including keeping a property of the object of the unknown object type as a property bag;

serializing the multiple sub-components and the property bag into a serialized package; and

transmitting the serialized package to the remote entity.

**27. (Previously Presented)** The system of claim 26, wherein a first process on the system transmits the serialized package and the remote entity comprises another process on the system.

**28. (Canceled)**



**29. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 1, wherein the decomposing act further comprises:  
associating an object with one of the known object types, so that object is a known object.

**30. (Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of claim 29, wherein just the known objects are serialized in the serializing act.

**31. (Canceled)**

**32. (Canceled)**